

an interface with a second controller, wherein the first controller determines the price for the plurality of items by outputting signals to the second controller via the interface and inputting price information from the second controller via the interface,

wherein at least one of the first controller and the automated payment-acceptor generates an indication when a tendered payment is sufficient to pay the price determined by the first controller.

33. (Amended) A customer-operated checkout system for items bearing identifiers, the system comprising:

a portable terminal including a data reader and a first RF interface, wherein the portable terminal identifies selected items using the data reader, and transmits information about the selected items via the first RF interface;

a base station including a second RF interface, a memory, and a data output port, wherein the base station receives the information about the selected items from the portable terminal via the second RF interface, stores the information in the memory, and outputs the information via the data output port; and

a self-checkout station including a data input port and a customer-operated automated payment-accepting subsystem, wherein the self-checkout station receives the stored information from the base station data output port via the data input port, and accepts payment from the customer for the selected items using the payment-accepting subsystem.